

COMMENT

Please provide the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership with your comments and suggestions about the draft plan and the future of the park.

I am particularly supportive of efforts to protect
the natural environment.

A copy of the draft general management plan and a response form are posted on the internet at www.nps.gov/BOHA/admin.

Would you like to be on the Boston Harbor Islands mailing list? ☒ yes



Rick Blumsack
64 Prentiss Street, Unit #1
Cambridge, MA 02140

NOTES on GMP and EIS CHANGES

Rick Blumsack

Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area
Draft General Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement

What is your opinion?

*A magnificent general plan
for a very special place, long
ignored. Bravo !!*

What aspects of the preferred alternative (Alternative C) do you favor?

*1) Strikes the best plan between public access
to a great resource and preservation of that resource
for future generations. A thoughtful melding of good public
objectives.*

What elements of the preferred alternative would you change, if any, and how?

*Would like to see the Peddock Island historic
foot restoration moved up in priorities - if we wait much
longer there won't be anything left, and it is one of the
great historic structures in the New England area.*

Do you have any comments on alternatives A and B?

*Alternative B - recreation gulch - would trample
the islands to death - a big mistake*

*Alternative A would be preservation without use,
a ridiculous idea since Alternative C shows the two concepts are not at all mutually exclusive*

John Bok

John Bok

- The potential for Peddocks Island development is discussed in a new appendix, "Economic Sustainability Strategy, 2001-2011," (GMP p.139). Priority setting is done not in the general management plan but in the park's strategic plan.

Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area Summary of Draft General Management Plan

Please provide the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership with your comments and suggestions about the draft plan and the future of the park.

Great Plan; looking forward to its implementation

A copy of the draft general management plan and a response form are posted on the internet at www.nps.gov/BOHA/admin.

Would you like to be on the Boston Harbor Islands mailing list? ☒

Name _____
Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____

Joshua H. Brown
270 Babcock Street
Apartment 2-J
Boston, MA 02215

Please remember that anonymous comments cannot be considered. Comments, names, and addresses are part of the public record and may be made available for public inspection.

Joshua Brown

MEMORANDUM

To: Barbara Mackey, National Park Service via fax 223-5172
From: Regina Burke, 168 Cadish Ave., Hull, MA 02045
Date: August 1, 2000

Re: Draft Management Plan

The following are issues that I feel need addressing/correcting as regards the Draft Management Plan.

1. Boat moorings should not interfere with commercial lobster boats and the fields they have been fishing.
2. Municipalities bordering the park should be given every opportunity to establish Gateway sites.
3. All maps in draft plan need to include Rt. 228 (a state numbered roadway) which runs through Hingham and part of Cohasset to Hull from Route 3 Exit 14 area.
4. Boston Harbor Islands map at the beginning of the executive summary should include the subsidized commuter boat routes (BHC and Harbor Express) as Mass Transit Stops.
5. Historic Structures and Landscapes map should identify Castle Island's Fort Independence and Hull's Fort Revere by name as well as include other significant historical sites in the communities surrounding the park.
6. Management Alternatives regarding transportation need to include Peddocks in Alternatives B and C.

I can only hope that the various agency representatives to the partnership and management groups can leave their group's personal agenda at the door and keep their focus on what is best for the park as a whole.

Regina Burke

- A new section in the plan, harbor management (GMP p.96) addresses this point.
- The plan now contains criteria for designating gateways (GMP p. 50), which should help guide communities in developing gateways.
- [The comment specifically requests a change to Alternatives B and C. However, the plan and the EIS indicate water transportation to Peddocks Island will be provided in Alternative C.]

National Park Service Organic Act of 1916, as amended

Through this act, Congress established the National Park Service and directed it to...

promote and regulate the use of the federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations... by such means and measures as to conform to the fundamental purpose of said parks, monuments, and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

Liz Clark

Please bear in mind the above when making your final selection of a management plan. No where is it stated Parks are to be playgrounds for adults.

Thank You
Liz Clark
2014 2railview Ct
Norman, OK
73072

**BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK AREA
DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Please provide the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership and Advisory Committee with your comments and suggestions about the draft plan and the future of the park.

I am opposed to including Worlds End in the Boston Harbor Islands water taxi program with dock and visitor facilities. As a peninsula, the property is already accessible to the public. Your plan will no doubt add wear and tear

A copy of the draft general management plan and a response form are posted on the internet at www.nps.gov/BOHA/admin. The public comment period extends until August 1, 2000. *To a naturally*

Would you like to be on the Boston Harbor Islands mailing list? *No*

Name *Deborah Comeau*

Deborah Comeau

- Based on further analysis and discussions with residents in Hingham and Hull, The Trustees of Reservations has eliminated the proposal for a pier at Worlds End. The option of a pier at Worlds End has been removed from the general management plan and environmental impact statement.

**BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK AREA
DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Please provide the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership and Advisory Committee with your comments and suggestions about the draft plan and the future of the park.

I am interested primarily in World's End. This is a reservation. It is not Coney Island! The parking lot is filled every weekend day in good weather. This provides more than enough foot traffic on this reservation. Please, no toilets, no trash barrels, no excessive crowds, NO DOCK. IT'S PERFECT. Leave it alone!

A copy of the draft general management plan and a response form are posted on the internet at www.nps.gov/BOHA/admin. The public comment period extends until August 1, 2000.

Would you like to be on the Boston Harbor Islands mailing list? _____

Name JOSEPH COMEAU

Joseph Comeau

- Based on further analysis and discussions with residents in Hingham and Hull, The Trustees of Reservations has eliminated the proposal for a pier at Worlds End. The option of a pier at Worlds End has been removed from the general management plan and environmental impact statement.

**BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK AREA
DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Please provide the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership and Advisory Committee with your comments and suggestions about the draft plan and the future of the park.

*I wish to take an active part in this plan
Thank you and all committees that will make
a contribution to its success. Please consider my self
to take part (serve) in a Youth Committee*

A copy of the draft general management plan and a response form are posted on the internet at www.nps.gov/BOHA/admin. The public comment period extends until August 1, 2000.

Would you like to be on the Boston Harbor Islands mailing list? ☒

Name

Francis J. Derwin

Francis J. Derwin

**BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK AREA
DRAFT GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Please provide the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership and Advisory Committee with your comments and suggestions about the draft plan and the future of the park.

*The draft plan appears to be well thought out,
and I have no suggestions but want to
express my appreciation.*

A copy of the draft general management plan and a response form are posted on the internet at www.nps.gov/BOHA/admin. The public comment period extends until August 1, 2000.

Would you like to be on the Boston Harbor Islands mailing list? K IF *brief, I cannot deal
with voluminous
mail unfortunately*

Name ESTHER FICH

Esther Fich

Caesar Fittante

In regard to the Management Plan of
the Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area,
I favor Alternative C which

- a. Concentrates visitation/usage of fewer islands.
- b. Preserves the most open space and natural areas
- c. Has the least effect on the environment and water

Yours truly
Caesar F. Fittante

47 Nancy Rd.
Newton, Ma 02467

July 28, 2000

George Price, Project Manager
Boston Harbor Islands
408 Atlantic Ave, Suite 228
Boston, Ma 02110-3349

Mr. Price:

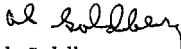
Below are a few personal comments on the proposed Management Plans.

I prefer Alternative C as requiring the least modification to the outer islands in the Brewster group. In fact, I would like to see all in the Brewster group, except for Little Brewster, left in their natural state - quiet and remote, with public viewing by ferry but accessed only by recreational boaters; sort of a wilderness area. Generally, I'd like to see only those changes to the islands elsewhere as is necessary to provide for increased public visits. As mentioned in some of the plans, one island - Spectacle, I believe - could be turned into an entertainment center.

Following this thought, I urge caution in creating a Disney-like scene at the Gateways, and in creating too much entertainment on other islands in order to attract attendance for the Park. Currently the chief merit of the Harbor Islands is their quiet serenity so close to the busy life of the city. This is something that adults can appreciate, and as in any park, I believe visitors won't need nor want to be closely managed. It would be also tragic to convert this to something with major emphasis on the children. On the contrary, I urge that the goal should be to move the children to appreciate the adult values of the Park.

The islands have been accessible to the city for many years. I think the reason they haven't had more usage is simply that, until now, there hasn't been many public facilities nor has there been much publicity about what was available. My guess is that it may require only nominal infrastructure to attract people. I suggest that development start in a low key to see what activities are actually useful, then to expand as outlined in the Management Plans as seems expedient.

Very truly yours,


Al Goldberg

Al Goldberg

George Price, Project Manager
Boston Harbor Islands
408 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 228
Boston, MA 02110-3349

July 31, 2000

Dear Mr. Price:

The Draft General Management Plan for Boston Harbor Islands, a National Park Area is impressive in its scope and concerns. It is especially strong in addressing the past use of these islands and how, by responsible management and public stewardship, the numerous past abuses of this remarkable metropolitan resource should be avoidable as we move forward. The recognition and honoring of the American Indian presence, history and burial grounds, the military and maritime use, the public health and commercial roles, and the ecological importance of these islands are all discussed with appropriate concern and commitment. The theme of 'reconnection and renewal' is so well considered, the guidelines spelled out enough, and the general consensus of Partnership members so apparent that I have no fear but that these leading ideas and projects will materialize to the benefit of all. Reconnection and renewal; you can get there from here!

My concern is about getting to the future without forfeiting the rare opportunities presented by the Boston Harbor Islands park area to help show the way, particularly as relates to energy use and powering the islands selected for 'development.'

As a document and plan that "presents policy-level guidelines...and is meant to guide the park for fifteen to twenty years"¹ it appears weak in specific commitment to, or strategy for realizing the voiced hope that: "all new infrastructure would be sustainable, make use of renewable resources, and would be guided by a 'green' philosophy."² Or that: "Boston Harbor Islands park operations, infrastructure, programs, and functions are models for the use of sustainable design, planning, construction, development, access, resource use and maintenance."³

There is no question; these are all the right attitudes and words! 'Sustainable resource management,' "green" philosophy, 'renewable resources;' they speak to the evolving imperatives of our future. But how do we get there from here? How can the General Management Plan foster and the Partnership create and build momentum and consensus to commit to a more appropriate future when just reconnection and renewal can be so difficult?

¹ Boston Harbor Islands, a National Park Area; Draft General Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement; April 2000. Executive Summary, page ii

² Ibid. Executive Summary, page iii

³ Ibid. page 47

F. William Green

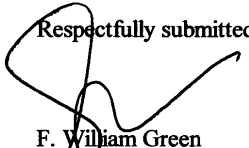
- The plan recognizes the importance of concepts cited in this comment letter by adding text in several places, and especially a new policy statement on sustainability, Sustainability and Environmental Leadership (GMP p.89).

The GMP could expand its vision and scope by adding a “theme:”⁴ “Islands of the Future.” Sub-themes might be sustainable development, renewable energy use, research in less tested energy recovery (e.g. tidal currents), stand alone potable water production, and educational efforts to inculcate the ‘island mind-set’ of limited resources in the visiting, mainland public. It is not enough for the GMP to state the possibility or intention of applying ‘sustainable resource management,’ etc. Such a commitment to the future should be advanced by its elevation to an important theme and expectation of this metropolitan park area effort.

A plan for implementation of sustainable development should include a buy-in on a phased, progressive move toward use of renewable energy on the islands. Initially this may only be a commitment to buy a certain percentage of “green” power (or green power equivalents). But with a specified, stepped-up commitment serious consideration of island-based renewable energy production would be inevitable. Excess island-generated energy could be traded with other island owners who have a deficit or could be sold back on the grid to support island maintenance or upgrades. The Partnership could signal its intention to comply with the expressed principles already voiced in the General Management Plan by welcoming a feasibility study and draft on how such a scheme might be fairly and appropriately developed. A further expression of intention would be for the Partnership to recommend expansion on previously completed informational and feasibility studies⁵ regarding renewable energy as may be applicable to the Boston Harbor Islands.

In short, the Final Draft of the General Management Plan could better recognize and accept the potential of these islands and this park to get out front, to be precedent setters and to lead the way toward sustainable energy development in the region and in the National Park system.

Respectfully submitted,


F. William Green
67A Hammond Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

⁴ Ibid. See pages 26 – 28 (Islands on the Edge, Home in the Harbor, Portal to New England, Renewal and Reconnection)

⁵ See: Scoping Study of Renewable Electric Resources for Rhode Island and Massachusetts. C. T. Donovan Associates, Burlington VT, November 1997; Strategic Plan for the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust Fund, Arthur D. Little, Cambridge, MA; Power Plant Options for Thompson Island, Renewable Energy Research Laboratory, Center for Energy and Efficiency and Renewable Energy, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Rogers, AL et al. November 1999

- In a new appendix containing a long-range interpretive plan, the general management plan emphasizes the importance of sustainability in an expanded sub-theme, “A Beacon for Sustainable Development and Renewable Resources,” (GMP p.165).

Henry R. Hidell, III
Cynthia E. Toth Hidell
Eiderdin Cottage
63 Gifford Road
Hingham, Massachusetts U.S.A. 02043

Henry R. Hidell, III
Cynthia E. Toth Hidell

George Price
Project Manager
Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area
408 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 228
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

July 27, 2000

Re: Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area (BHINPA)

Dear Mr. Price:

Having read the Draft General Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement, attended the public hearing held in Hull in July 2000, and met with the Director and Regional Director of the Trustees of Reservations, we have come to the following conclusions:

- That the *concept* of the Boston Harbor Islands is a worthy and beneficial opportunity for the preservation of a unique landscape which will benefit generations to come.
- That reasonable public access to the Boston Harbor Islands by public ferry and private water craft is important to the recreational benefits that may reasonably be able to be supported by the physical limitations associated with the ecological environment of the various islands.
- That environmentally oriented educational opportunities should be evaluated and developed to provide the public with an appreciation of the geologic evolution of the islands. Included would be the environmental uniqueness of the islands, the role that this island area played in American history, the past uses made of the islands and the related environmental impact of those uses on the islands and the surrounding seascape. This educational effort should also include the dumping of hazardous materials in the harbor over the past several hundred years.
- That "tourist oriented" commercial services associated with the Park's development should occur. This would include food and restroom facilities, ticket purchasing locations and information kiosks and educational amphitheaters where environmentally appropriate, and not necessarily on the islands themselves but at some access point prior to visiting the islands. The islands should not be made into vehicles for "entertainment," but should instead be places of discovery and facilitated education.

Henry R. Hidell, III and Cynthia E. Toth Hidell

July 27

With the above said and certainly in agreement with the basic tenants of the Draft Plan, we have some significant reservations about some proposals found in the Draft Plan and some recommended cautions to the authors of the Final Plan.

- The Trustees of Reservations (TOR) have proven to be highly capable land stewards. We have been a member of the TOR for decades. We believe that the Trustees' participation in the administrative aspects of the management of the harbor islands would be a significant contribution to the overall stewardship of the islands.
- We shall encourage the TOR to remove Worlds End Reservation from direct and associated participation in the Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area, not to prevent access but to maintain the integrity of the 1968 conveyance by the citizens of the South Shore to preserve Worlds End for passive recreation and preservation of the unique landscape. We request that the BHINPA remove the present "National Park" designation of Worlds End as shown in the attached printed literature since such has not been approved by the Administration of the Trustees nor requested by the members of the TOR, to our knowledge.
- Worlds End as it is today is open to the public for a reasonable entrance fee or through a very reasonable annual membership fee. Its access is well established and the number of visitors per year eclipses that of any other single harbor oriented site mentioned in the Draft Plan. Therefore, there are no apparent benefits to associating it with the national Park Area or encouraging general public access through the National Park program. In addition, because of the severe physical constraints of the site relative to soils, vegetation and wildlife habitats in terms of human intervention, the visitor trips are at a maximum without threatening the sensitive environment associated with this site.
- Worlds End is not an Island. Its access is through a small neighborhood with limited access down a more or less single lane road. The risk of fire increases substantially when picnicking and uncontrolled year round access occurs. No other Boston Harbor island has this neighborhood sensitivity.
- Water access to Worlds End would require the construction of a pier of significant proportion into the Weir River, designated as a Scenic River, under the Scenic Rivers Act. The tide and related extensive mud flats around Worlds End would preclude the development of anything but a major pier structure and boat tie up area. Very limited mooring space is available at low tide. These considerations make pier access to World's End undesirable in relation to both World's end and the Weir River.
- There are extremely limited land areas of the size and nature of Worlds End along the coastline of Massachusetts that remain undeveloped and have direct coastal contact. This has created a protected reservation for wildlife, including bird populations, that would otherwise seek inland habitats. Because of the limited access, passive recreational activities and very limited development, Worlds End is

- Based on further analysis and discussions with residents in Hingham and Hull, The Trustees of Reservations has eliminated the proposal for a pier at Worlds End. The option of a pier at Worlds End has been removed from the general management plan and environmental impact statement.

Henry R. Hidell, III and Cynthia E. Toth Hidell

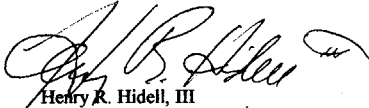
July 27

unique, must be respected as unique, and must experience stewardship of a unique quality not within the standards usually associated with our national park system.

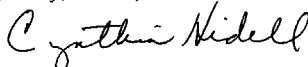
- The goals of Plans B or C of the Draft Plan are incompatible with the historic stewardship and preservation of World's End. The usually uncrowded nature of World's End has been maintained by limiting access, parking, and visiting hours, not by attempting to meet a "carrying capacity." World's End has historically been a low profile, non-commercially oriented preserve, carefully balancing its mission of serving the public with maintaining a quiet and unstructured area for passive recreation and personal renewal.

Although we have focused our attention on the World's End Reservation and the role of the TOR, our comments here can apply easily to other sites within Boston Harbor, including the Brewsters, Gallops and Bumpkin to name several. We urge extreme caution in the development intensity of any but the hardest islands. This Boston Harbor Island Group overall represents a very fragile environment which can very easily be destroyed through over commercialization even with the guidance of the attributes of the National Park Service. Recovery of a landscape in this marine environment is a slow process once it is destroyed. These are unforgiving drumlins whose thin soils structure, limited water supplies and assault by massive erosional forces are presently fading away to spits and turbidity. We urge the greatest caution and a strong reliance not upon the planning and engineering community to discuss user loading, but upon the scientists who have monitored and studied this most fragile part of our heritage.

Sincerely,



Henry R. Hidell, III



Cynthia E.T. Hidell

Dear Mr. Jacobson

June 29, 2000

I have great concern over the proposed new runway at Logan and the effect it will have on the Boston Harbor Islands. This beautiful new National Park will be greatly damaged, peace and tranquillity will be gone. Boston has many low income and minority families. Many of these families do not own cars or have income to travel. These islands can be reached by public transportation and a ferry. The people should have the right to enjoy a day of peace and fun away from the heat and turmoil of city life, not the deafening noise of planes or the toxic exhaust from them. People just because they are low income or minorities should not have to always bear the burden of unhealthy development.

I also believe the noise and pollution will be damaging to the success of this park, as tourists will choose other options, rather than be subject to a day of being exposed to these hazards. Who would choose or recommend a place like that?

Sincerely,

Roberta Horn
65 St. Andrew Rd. East Boston, Ma. 02128

Roberta Horn

- The general management plan points out in a new section (GMP p.97) that the 1996 park law depicted Logan International Airport development as not having a negative impact on the park and not being subject to review by the National Park Service.

COMMENT

Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area Summary of Draft General Management Plan

Please provide the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership with your comments and suggestions about the draft plan and the future of the park.

Provide some historical background about each of the islands.

A copy of the draft general management plan and a response form are posted on the internet at www.nps.gov/BOHA/admin.

Would you like to be on the Boston Harbor Islands mailing list? YES

Name MR. SYVALIA HYMAN, III

NOTES on GMP and EIS CHANGES

Syvalia Hyman, III

Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area Summary of Draft General Management Plan

Please provide the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership with your comments and suggestions about the draft plan and the future of the park.

I think there should be a day where people
are allowed to go to the "new" Spectacle Island,
have a picnic and plant their own tree.
"Plant a tree on Spectacle Island" Day. Maybe

A copy of the draft general management plan and a response form are posted on the internet at www.nps.gov/BOHA/admin.

Would you like to be on the Boston Harbor Islands mailing list? yes

Name Jeff - June Kaps

In conjunction
w/ Arbor day
or Earth day

Jeff and Jane Kaps

COMMENT**NOTES on GMP and EIS CHANGES**

Dear Sir, I would like to see more ports. or being able to get to these islands, such as E. Boston, Chelsea, (Mary O' Malley Park). Places such as MDC water parks. Parking in Boston is not that easy. Thank you.

FRANK KUSHMEREK

Frank Kushmerek

Joseph W. Lyons
62 Turner St
Quincy MA 02169
July 26 2000

Draft Plan - Public Comments
George Price , Project Manager
Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area
408 Atlantic Ave, Suite 228
Boston MA 02110

Dear NPS: RE COMMENTARY//IPM and even more
I attended the Quincy Public meeting and made some quickly scrolled remarks without prior preparation regarding an IPM issue that I believe is important. Upon my further review, I understand as NPS staff said that night that NPS uses IPM - but I request that you look further at a recently passed bill which has been signed by the Gov. of Massachusetts .

Chapter 85 of the Acts of 2000 is an act Protecting Children and Families From Harmful Pesticides. There is a clear intent in this Mass law to go further than previously existing legislation in this state to assure that schools and day care centers and their staff and students not be subject to the effects of organophosphate pesticides.

At the hearing, I had lacked this aforementioned citation of the new law. My point was and is that clearly some of these islands are owned by Mass. and there are a variety of current & future public usages of the Islands , including indoor educational and restroom facilities. There will also be a large number of school aged children using these Islands in the future as the PLAN evolves. Your literature says that you wish to make visitor experiences an opportunity to enjoy nature. All I want is for NPS and all the subdivision agencies involved with this plan to know is that this new law in Mass. exists with the intent of protecting children and even though the buildings and grounds are not technically schools or day care centers, you should all use your good offices to assure that you go beyond any current practices in IPM policy to implement the goals of Chapter 85/2000 MGL in settings out there where children will be in effect pursuing study-- of a clean environment. It is very important that Mass State Agencies usually not following issues like the new Mass Pesticide Law for schools be placed on notice that this law exists and that citizens are watching that it is implemented in both its written form and in the intent of the Mass Executive and Legislative branches to enhance children's health.

Sincerely, 
Joseph W. Lyons just a concerned citizen

Joseph W. Lyons

- In the plan a section about park policies (p.54) makes clear that park managers will follow relevant state laws, such as the one cited here, even if the laws are not cited specifically in the plan.

COMMENT

Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area Summary of Draft General Management Plan

Please provide the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership with your comments and suggestions about the draft plan and the future of the park.

I HAVE CONFIDENCE IN ALL PEOPLE INVOLVED.

I WILL ALWAYS BE INTERESTED IN ISLANDS. I

HAVE VOLUNTEERED IN PAST WITH F.B.I. AND

HAVE BEEN ON MY TEN YEAR PLAN.

A copy of the draft general management plan and a response form are posted on the internet at www.nps.gov/BOHA/admin.

Would you like to be on the Boston Harbor Islands mailing list? ☒

Name MARIAN MACLENNAN

NOTES on GMP and EIS CHANGES

Marian MacLennan